

00684.103484

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
	:	Examiner: Unassigned
Jiro Shirakata et al.)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 3742
Application No.: 10/572,544)	
	:	Confirmation No. 7479
Filed: July 5, 2007)	
	:	
For: HEATING APPARATUS)	March 19, 2008

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the document listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

A Notification of the First Office Action issued on February 22, 2008, in Chinese Patent Application No. 200480034304.4, a counterpart to the present application. A translation of the Chinese Office Action is enclosed herewith. The Chinese Office Action cites Japanese Patent Pub. No. 2000039797 A and Japanese Patent Pub. No. 9306652 A, both of which were previously made of record in the present application in the Information Disclosure Statement filed September 6, 2007.

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be initialed and returned indicating that such

information has been considered.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement is a communication from a foreign patent office in a foreign counterpart application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Moreover, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before issuance of a first Office Action on the merits of the present application. Accordingly, Applicants believe no fee is due. Any fee required in connection with this paper, however, should be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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DHH:ntb